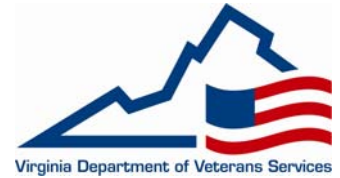


The Virginia Department of Veterans Services



900 East Main Street • Richmond, VA 23219 • www.virginiaforveterans.com

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 12, 2008

Contact: Anne Atkins
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Captain Catherine Wilson Hired for Virginia Wounded Warrior Program

RICHMOND—The Virginia Department of Veterans Services (DVS) has hired Captain Catherine A. Wilson, Nurse Corps, USN (ret.) as the Executive Director of the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program. Captain Wilson retired in July from the Navy after 29 years of service. She most recently served as Commander of the Naval Hospital Bremerton, in Washington state. Prior to her command at Bremerton, she completed a successful tour as the Commanding Officer of the Expeditionary Medical Facility, Kuwait.

“I am honored to be selected for this position and to have the privilege to continue to serve our military veterans and their families,” said Wilson, who is a Virginia native.

The Virginia Wounded Warrior program, established by the 2008 General Assembly, will ensure that veterans who have experienced stress-related injuries in combat, and their families, receive timely assessment, treatment, and support. A study by the RAND Corporation reports that more than 30 percent of returning service personnel “have a mental health condition or reported experiencing a traumatic brain injury.”

Virginia’s share of this serious health concern comes to more than 50,000 veterans over the next 20 years. Considering the impact on spouses and children, the number increases to 200,000 during the same time period.

Serving those who served.

The Program will support Virginia veterans and members of the Virginia National Guard and Virginia residents of the Armed Forces Reserves not in active federal service. The program also supports the family members of these veterans, Guard and Reserve members.

The General Assembly appropriated \$4.4 million over the current biennium to fund the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program. These funds will be used to build capacity in the community service boards, traumatic brain injury service providers, and other community-based service providers as well as to provide a hotline for veterans and their families, and training for service providers and other professionals. Services to veterans and their families will include mental health, substance abuse, and traumatic brain injury services as well as case management, outpatient, family support, and rehabilitation services.

“My desire is to help achieve the vision of making Virginia a model state for the Wounded Warrior Program concept,” explained Wilson. “We will strive to make our veterans, their families, agencies and supportive services aware that Virginia has a safety net that ensures access to the care needed.”

Captain Wilson will start her new position on August 25. Significant work remains in setting up the program. However, a training conference is planned for this November, and the agency expects to make the first program funding awards during the first quarter of 2009.

For more information about the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program, visit www.VirginiaforVeterans.com.

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Captain Catherine A. Wilson
Nurse Corps, United States Navy, (Ret.)

Positions

Commanding Officer, Naval Hospital Bremerton

Commanding Officer of Expeditionary Medical Facility, Kuwait

Executive Officer, Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton and command of its Fleet Hospital

Director of Fleet and Family Medicine, Naval Medical Center Portsmouth

Deputy Director of the TRICARE Mid-Atlantic Region Lead Agent Office

Congressional Detail to Senator Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii—Advisor on health-related issues

Director of Regional Operations for TRICARE Mid-Atlantic

Deputy Director for Force Management, Senior Policy Analyst for TIRCare Operations Policy, and Chief of Staff for the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Services Operations and Readiness

Deputy of Enlisted Force Management at the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery and Navy Surgeon General's representative for HIV and AIDS prevention education

Education

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Master of Science in Trauma/Critical Care Nursing with a minor in Education

Master of Science in Human Resource Management and Health Policy

Certified in managed care by the Academy of Healthcare Management

Certificate of Legislative Studies from Georgetown University

Awards

Legion of Merit

Defense Meritorious Service Medal (3rd award)

Navy Meritorious Service Award (4th award)

Navy Commendation Medal

Navy Military Unit Commendation (2nd award)

Overseas Service Ribbon

National Defense Service Medal (2nd award)

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal

She is entitled to wear the Office of the Secretary of Defense Identification Badge and is the recipient of the USUHS Meritorious Service award and the distinguished Hewlett Packard award